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LONDON metro®

Wednesday, October 31, 2012

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Mayor's ouster voted down

Mayor Joe Fontana glances into the public gallery at city hall where a man dressed in a pig costume was sitting during Tuesday's council meeting. The get-up was meant to show support for Fontana and his "bull-in-a-china-shop" approach to business and politics, the man told Metro. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Misspending investigation.

Proponents of motion asking Joe Fontana to step aside say attempt likely won't be the last

ANGELA MULLINS
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Eight votes were enough to shut down a call on Tuesday for Mayor Joe Fontana to take a leave of absence.

In an 8-6 vote, politicians quashed Coun. Nancy Branscombe's motion asking the mayor to step aside amid allegations he misspent taxpayers' money.

Other councillors who supported the move were Bill Armstrong, Matt Brown, Paul Hubert, Judy Bryant and Sandy White. Opposed were Fontana and Bud Polhill, Joe Swan, Stephen Orser, Dale Henderson, Paul VanMeerbergen, Denise Brown and Harold Usher. Coun. Joni Baechler was absent.

The motion — which would have had no binding authority under the Municipal Act — could crop up again, Branscombe said.

"This is a cloud hanging over us. It's going to get more and more intense. This isn't going to go away," she said. "I think we've just got to keep this in the forefront. It's a serious issue."

Nancy Branscombe
METRO FILE

Fontana had no comment.

The RCMP is investigating reports that Fontana used federal cheques worth about $20,000 to pay for his son's 2005 wedding reception. He was an MP at the time.

On Tuesday, Coun. Stephen Orser renewed calls for "fairness" and "democracy."

"I believe anyone that's under investigation … has the right to be treated fairly and equitably, no matter what lynch-mob mentality exists out there," he said.

The support for Fontana came as more than 400 people joined on online petition calling for the mayor to bow out as Mounties investigate.

Londoner Brian Gibson says the mayor should adhere to the "same standards our community holds for similar positions" that rely on public trust.

"Stepping down, much like paid suspension, is not a declaration of guilt, but ensures the highest level of confidence in public office."

Methadone treatment centre

Clinic OK'd for Old South

City council paved the way on Tuesday for a methadone clinic in Old South.

Council voted 9-5 to grant a request by Ontario Addiction Treatment Centres to rezone a used-car lot at 425 Wharncliffe Rd. S., on condition that the clinic dispense no more than 200 doses of methadone daily.

Coun. Denise Brown repeatedly asked councillors to dismiss the request, since the neighbourhood already has two methadone clinics and a pharmacy that dispenses the drug.

"This is not a group that's saying not in my backyard," Brown stressed. "This is a group that's saying not a third one in my backyard."

Mayor Joe Fontana tabled a motion that would have postponed a decision until the city has licensing rules in place for methadone clinics. That motion was defeated.

The clinic is expected to be the first in London since council lifted a moratorium on new centres this year.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

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SHINE THE LIGHT ON WOMAN ABUSE
In honour of all women abused or killed by their partners - those they entrusted to love them.
shine the
LIGHT
on woman abuse

Megan Walker, executive director of the London Abused Women's Centre, is pictured Tuesday with items promoting the Shine the Light on Woman Abuse initiative. The campaign, marking its third year, starts Thursday. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Shine the Light is reaching farther

Growing. November campaign about woman abuse is spreading to other cities, continents

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

A London campaign to create awareness about abuse faced by women is spreading across the province — and the globe.

As leaders prepare for Thursday's Shine the Light kickoff in Victoria Park, people in Toronto, Windsor, Sault Ste. Marie, Woodstock, and even Guyana are preparing for similar launches.

It's a testament to the success of the now three-year-old effort, said Megan Walker, executive director of the London Abused Women's Centre.

Aside from picking up attention from outsiders, the campaign has led to more requests for help and information. This summer alone, the abused women's centre received about 600 phone calls from victims or their family members.

"We have never seen that volume of phone calls to our agency," Walker said. "Throughout the month of November, almost every woman that comes in here says, 'Oh, we saw the bus (advertisement),' or 'Oh, we saw the billboard.'"

Government leaders in Guyana caught wind of the campaign last summer when Walker visited the South American country. The spread across Ontario can be attributed to the efforts of a committee of abuse victims.

An initiative of the Ontario Association of Interval and Transitional Housing, the committee has members across the province and they jumped at the chance to bring the campaign into their hometowns, said Gabriela Cameto.

Cameto, 38, is heading up the Toronto effort.

Among other things, she's working to bring Shine the Light's message into schools and have the CN Tower lit in purple — the campaign's official colour.

"To me, being a survivor, I think it kind of reinforces us speaking out and eliminating stigma," Cameto said about the campaign. "It's something simple that everyone can do. You just wear purple."

Lights on

- **Officials will flip the switch at 6 p.m.** Thursday on a Victoria Park tree strung with purple lights, marking the start of Shine the Light.
- **For a full event lineup, visit lawc.on.ca.**

Free event

Mix it up with the prosperity planners

Want to provide your input on the London Cultural Prosperity Plan? Come to the cultural mixer on Thursday.

This free event will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the London Convention Centre (300 York St.). For more information and to register, visit eventbrite.ca/event/4591754060. METRO

Gathering

Fanshawe College to celebrate convocation

Together with the family and friends of more than 1,200 graduates, Fanshawe College students will celebrate their convocation during three ceremonies at the London campus on Thursday and Friday. The college will also honour students with the highest academic achievement in each faculty with Dean's Academic Awards. METRO

Bilingualism

Western to host French forum

On Friday, almost 200 students from 10 schools in the London area will gather at Western University for the French for the Future local forum. Held annually, the forum offers students a day full of activities that highlight the benefits of bilingualism through the acquisition of French. The local forum also gives students enrolled in French immersion, core French, and French first-language programs the opportunity to meet up outside of school for a day entirely in French. METRO

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Sandy. Effects minimal in London as superstorm ravages Eastern Seaboard

Londoners are off Superstorm Sandy's potentially disastrous hook.

The East Coast storm that claimed at least 18 lives, washed out rail lines and sent massive waves coursing over seawalls Monday evening left the Forest City virtually untouched.

"The impact was not overly significant," Dave O'Brien, the city's director of corporate security and emergency management, said, noting only a "handful" of downed trees and isolated power outages.

Peter Kimbell, an Environment Canada meteorologist, said Sandy "will be drifting off to the northeast over the next couple of days. ... Basically, it's going to be leaving a lot of cloud and showers for us to deal with."

Gusting wind — peaking about 9 p.m. at 80 km/h — riddled the city for much of Monday, continuing into Tuesday morning.

Rural areas were hit a bit harder with power outages cancelling Tuesday classes at schools in Rodney, Alisa Craig, Norwich, Hickson, and Lucan.

Timeline

- **Landfall.** Hurricane Sandy made landfall about 8 p.m. Monday just outside Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- **Top winds.** Winds of about 130 km/h were reported there.
- **London spared.** Between 8 p.m. Monday and midnight Tuesday, London saw sustained winds ranging from 37 to 55 km/h. Gusts ranged from 56 to 80 km/h. That's along the lines of what the area sees during any severe storm.

Forecasters had called off predictions for excessive rain before the storm touched down. According to Environment Canada data, rainfall clocked in at 14.5 millimetres Monday — less than the 17 millimetres that fell Saturday while Sandy was still churning in the Atlantic.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

The track. Ontario horse racing needs public support to survive: Expert panel

An expert panel is recommending the Ontario government allow horse racing tracks to provide other forms of gambling to offset the loss of $345 million a year in slot machine revenues.

A panel of three former cabinet ministers says it would be a mistake to reinstate the slots at racetracks program, which accounted for 64 per cent of the annual income for Ontario's horse racing sector and more than 60 per cent of purse money.

The panel also says racetracks will need government help to survive, but did not repeat a conclusion in its interim report that $50 million over three years in government transition funds is insufficient to get the sector to sustainability.

Critics accuse the Liberal government of putting 55,000 jobs in the horse racing sector at risk as it cuts spending to trim a $14.4 billion deficit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Profit

$1.1B

Having slot machines at 17 Ontario racetracks generates $1.1 billion profit for the province each year: Ontario Horse Racing and Breeding Association

Knights' outdoor game relies on lockout deal

Hockeytown? Potential cancellation of NHL Winter Classic in Detroit would also cancel featured OHL, NCAA, AHL and alumni games

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Alex Broadhurst ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Alex Broadhurst is a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan. He loves them even though "they suck right now."

But that hadn't stopped him from looking forward to playing some puck in the home of the Detroit Tigers.

"Brutal. It's kind of disappointing," said the 19-year-old London Knights forward, who has 11 points through 14 games. "Hopefully, it still comes through."

The Orland Park, Ill., native is one of about 200 amateur players that will be affected by the probable cancellation of the 2013 NHL Winter Classic. An official announcement calling-off the sixth annual outdoor spectacle is expected before week's end.

The NHL labour war is set to bring the OHL, NCAA, AHL, and its alumni down with it. The Hockeytown Winter Festival — which features two OHL matches in Detroit's Comerica Park on Dec. 29, including London versus the Plymouth Whalers, as well as seven other hockey games — relies solely on the state of the lockout.

Broadhurst, a draft pick of the Chicago Blackhawks, had plans to bring a large family contingent to the throwback affair. And he's not the only one.

"It was something I was really looking forward to, something cool to play in," added Bo Horvat, a sophomore Knight.

The 17-year-old hails from Rodney, a rural community that sits about an hour west of London and two hours east of the Windsor-Detroit border. Outdoor hockey is a fixture of growing up in the country.

"My grandparents had a pond that we would play on when I was little," said Horvat, a 6-foot, 203-pound power forward.

Losing a chance to rewrite the record books could perhaps be the hardest pill to swallow for those involved in the OHL portion of the Hockeytown Winter Festival.

At the Corel Centre in 2004, the Ottawa 67's and Kingston Frontenacs set the league's single-game attendance record by playing in front of 20,081 fans.

Reportedly, about 30,000 tickets have already been sold for the game between the Windsor Spitfires versus Saginaw Spirit, with another 9,000 or so still available.

It could have been a double-whammy, too, since there's no reason to believe the London-Plymouth tilt would have seen a dip in attendance, seeing as both teams boast star-studded lineups and have local fan bases to draw from.

London Knights head coach Dale Hunter pulls aside rookie defenceman Miles Liberati for a quick chat about defensive-zone positioning before starting practice at Budweiser Gardens on Tuesday. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Knights netminder

Bailie OK

Knights netminder Kevin Bailie was injured in a team workout at the Western Fair Sports Centre on Monday. He watched the remainder of the practice from the sidelines and did not suit up Tuesday, either.

However, London goalie coach Bill Dark says it's nothing major — just bruising in the knee. A decision has yet to be made in regards to who will start in net for the Knights versus the Windsor Spitfires on Thursday, Dark added.

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Eldon House, which was built in 1834 by the Harris family, is now owned by the City of London and operated by Museum London. The Georgian-style home is located at 481 Ridout St. N. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Ghost story still fascinates

Eldon House. Haunted tale inspires weird pride

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Wenman Wynniatt was once a welcomed guest at one of London's oldest homes.

Now? He's the main character in ghost hunts in the city, the most infamous Forest City ghost of all time.

"He appeared to the Harris family's oldest daughter, and some guests here at Eldon House, in 1841," said Linda Louwagie-Neyens, collections assistant for Museum London.

As the story goes, soldier Wynniatt was courting Sarah Harris for quite some time, when he was invited to a social gathering at the Ridout Street home on May 14, 1841. He walked into the party late, came up to Sarah, stared at her with a pale face and blank expression, didn't say anything, and then left.

Wynniatt's body was found in nearby Thames River in the morning. Police reports indicate he was thrown off his horse, hit his head on a rock near the river, and rolled into the water to his death.

The most chilling detail in the police report is that his watch was found smashed on the shoreline, with the hands reading 10:15 p.m. That was the exact time Sarah saw him inside Eldon House.

"This is the type of ghost that comes to say goodbye, alert you to the fact that a relative has died," said Jason Rip, an organizer of The Lost Soul Stroll annual ghost walk through the Forest City's streets.

Like most Londoners, both Louwagie-Neyens and Rip are fond of the 1834-erected Eldon House, an architectural gem in the Forest City.

The Georgian-style home was in the aristocrat Harris family's possession for four generations. Since 1960, the City of London has owned Eldon House, with Museum London running its day-to-day operations in it.

Today, nearly every item inside Eldon House's walls — from the dinner table and décor to children's play areas and servant quarters — is in pristine condition. It has been preserved well and, for the most part, kept in the exact position the last Harris family member kept it.

"Every community seems to take some sort of a weird pride in this," said Rip of the popularity surrounding Wynniatt. "I would say London has more than its fair share. History is often about the mayor, or people like that, but these are about people who are up to dark deeds."

For video from Eldon House, go to metronews.ca

Saturday

Snowflake Bazaar at St. Andrew

St. Andrew the Apostle parish (1 Fallons Ln.) is holding its annual Snowflake Bazaar on Nov. 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be baked goods, a silent auction, a raffle, craft table, children's corner, books, clothing and more. METRO

Fundraiser

Hadassah-WIZO bazaar Sunday

The 52nd annual Hadassah Bazaar fundraiser will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the London Jewish Community Centre (536 Huron St.). Admission is $2 at the door, children under 12 get in free. METRO

Sunshine Law

City council again draws ire from ombudsman

Ontario's ombudsman, Andre Marin, released a report Tuesday that encourages municipal councils to to be more mindful of public concerns.

During his media conference, Marin specifically mentioned London city council, noting that some members were resentful of the very idea they could be investigated by his office.

"In London, Ont., another example of something out of the Twilight Zone is the obsession by some councilors with obtaining the names of people who complain to the office," Marin remarked. AM980/AM980.CA

Advice for trick-or-treaters

London police have provided the public with a number of safety tips for Wednesday's Halloween festivities, including these for trick-or-treaters:

- Approach homes with lights on; stay clear of ones in the dark.
- Accept treats at the doorway only; don't go inside.
- Wear reflective markings on your clothing.
- Don't eat any of your candy until it's been inspected by adults.
- Report inappropriate behaviour to the police immediately.

You ain't got jack on this pumpkin patch

Judd Kennedy, 56, and Scottie Roseberry, 15, both of London, put the finishing touches on a setup outside of Kennedy's home at 1276 Rideau Gate on Tuesday afternoon. The pair, along with a handful of other volunteers, have organized yet another massive jack-o'-lantern light-up for Halloween. The 2012 edition, the 19th year of The Kennedy's Pumpkins, will involve about 800 carved pumpkins, lighting up Tuesday and Wednesday night. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Sponsorships. Salvation Army seeks corporate help

Preparing for the winter and holiday season, the Salvation Army is looking for new corporate sponsorships to help them fund their programs.

"We have seen a 30 per cent decrease in food donations this year, and our high school Scrooge campaigns produced 30 per cent less than previous years," said Perron Goodyear of the Salvation Army. "Monetary donations are not going down, but corporate sponsorship is not rising to meet the demands we see."

To secure more corporate support, the Salvation Army is hosting its first Hope In the City breakfast at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn (591 Wellington Rd. S.) on Nov. 23. Tickets are $50 each or $400 for a table of eight.

"This event will allow business leaders in the community to gather and network, learn about what the Salvation Army does and how they can lend their support," said Goodyear.

Catriona Le May Doan, two-time Canadian Olympic gold medalist in speed skating, is the keynote speaker.

"What we are able to fundraise will go towards supporting Salvation Army services, such as the food bank and shelter," said Goodyear. ANDREW SERCOMBE/FOR METRO

Hope in the City

For more information, call 519-433-6106 or visit hopeinthecitylondon.ca.

Paranormal activity

Feel like a Halloween scare? We take a look at the spookiest places in other Metro cities across Canada, from Vancouver to Halifax

Edmonton

The McKay Avenue School is Edmonton's oldest brick schoolhouse, and it is reportedly haunted by a construction worker who fell from the roof while building an addition in 1912.

Regina

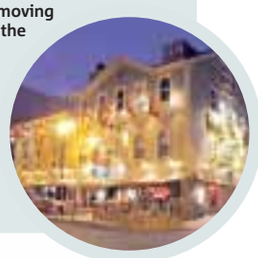
Tales of moving chairs and the sounds of footsteps are just regular occurrences at Government House. The 100-year-old residence has been used for everything from spectacular royal parties to an infirmary for Second World War veterans, and is said to be haunted by a former cook.

Toronto

Fort York was the site of a bloody battle back in 1813 and today, there have been many sightings of slain soldiers wandering the fort.

Halifax

The Five Fisherman Restaurant is known for its great food and ambience, but some swear its building from the 1800s is home to ghosts. Staff stories include glasses flying off shelves with no one around and cutlery on tables moving then falling to the floor. There is even the story of a server being patted on the shoulder, only to turn around and see no one there.



Calgary

Popular downtown watering hole the Rose and Crown was formerly a funeral home. The pub is believed to be home to multiple ghosts, including a young boy who reportedly died there.

Saskatoon

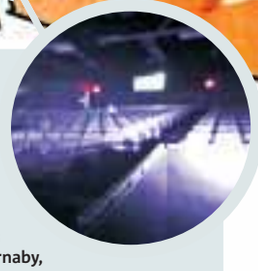
The Nutana Cemetery was where the first settlers of Saskatoon buried their loved ones, with the first recorded burial happening in 1884. It is said that on cold, dark nights, you can hear children crying.

Ottawa

A spectral presence in a hotel room and eerie singing in a winding staircase prompt history buffs to explore the spooky tale of the owner of the Chateau Laurier, who perished on the Titanic.

Vancouver

Benedictine monks, a fake archbishop who hid a criminal past and several orphaned children are said to haunt the grounds of Ceperley House and the James Cowan Theatre in Burnaby, B.C.



Winnipeg

The Manitoba Museum has many artifacts from different time periods — and rumoured spirits attached to those artifacts, drawing the attention of paranormal researchers.

Online

For more cities and expanded stories, visit metronews.ca

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We'd love to hear from you.

Enough! Fed-up French PM orders ministers to attend classes on sexism

Politicians in France — which produced feminist icons such as Joan of Arc and Simone de Beauvoir — are going back to school.

They'll study … sexism.

French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault ordered the training after a series of gaffes by his ministers.

All of France's 38 ministers have signed up or are in the process of registering.

In the interest of gender equality, the female ministers are going, too.

Organizer Caroline de Haas says 80 per cent of politicians interviewed on French TV and radio broadcasts are men. She wants to fight against the "illusion" that France "has almost achieved equality." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sweden's role

The anti-sexism training initiative comes — rather unsurprisingly — from Sweden.

- **Impressive.** Sweden tops the Global Gender Gap report list on female-male equality.
- **Unimpressive.** France is trailing at 48th place on the equality list.

Egypt orders probe

Sex assaults mar Muslim holiday

Egypt has declared war on sexual harassment.

President Mohammed Morsi has ordered his interior minister to investigate a rash of assaults during a just-ended Muslim holiday.

Morsi's government reported 735 police complaints about sexual harassment over the four-day Eid al-Adha holiday.

Morsi stressed the need to fight "all phenomena of moral chaos and abuses, especially harassment in Egyptian streets," spokesperson Yasser Ali said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blast from the past: Dud bomb shuts major airport

A bulletin board at Sendai airport in Japan tells the story — all flights cancelled. The reason: an unexploded wartime bomb.

KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jitters in Japan. All 92 flights in and out of Sendai are cancelled after wartime relic is unearthed on runway

A major airport in northern Japan was closed Tuesday after construction workers found an unexploded bomb believed to be from the Second World War.

All 92 flights in and out of Sendai airport were cancelled after the 250-kilogram bomb was uncovered during construction near a runway, police official Hiroshi Ouchi said.

The bomb was identified as American-made and is believed to be a dud from the war.

It appeared to have a working detonator, and a military bomb squad was considering whether to move the bomb or explode it on the spot. Sandbags were piled up around the bomb. Officials said nearby homes might be evacuated.

They added the area had been sealed off and there was no immediate concern the bomb would explode.

Sendai airport, a regional hub for travel into northern Japan, was closed for months due to severe damage from last year's tsunami.

It is still undergoing reconstruction.

Officials said the airport would reopen as soon as the bomb was considered secure, possibly by Wednesday morning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadly rain

The United States heavily bombed Japanese cities during the Second World War and finding unexploded bombs is not unusual, even 67 years after Japan's surrender.

- **Tokyo tally.** Dozens of duds are uncovered in Tokyo every year.

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‘It is a devastating sight right now’

Brian Hajeski, 41, reacts as he looks at debris of a home that washed up onto the Mantoloking Bridge on Tuesday, the morning after Superstorm Sandy rolled through Mantoloking, N.J. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tough road ahead. Sandy will end up causing about $20B in property damage and $10B-$30B more in lost business: Global Insight

The most destructive storm in decades to hit the most densely populated U.S. region cut off modern communication and left millions without power Tuesday, as thousands who fled their waterlogged homes wondered when — if — life would return to normal.

A weakening Sandy, the hurricane turned fearsome superstorm, killed at least 50 people, many hit by falling trees, and still wasn’t finished. It inched inland across Pennsylvania, ready to bank toward western New York state to dump more of its water and likely cause more havoc Tuesday night.

“Nature,” said New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, assessing the damage to his city, “is an awful lot more powerful than we are.”

More than 8.2 million households were without power in 17 states as far west as Michigan.

One of the most dramatic tales came from lower Manhattan, where a failed backup generator forced New York University’s Tisch Hospital to relocate more than 200 patients, including 20 babies from neonatal intensive care. Dozens of ambulances lined up in the rainy night and the tiny patients were gingerly moved out, some attached to battery-powered respirators as gusts of wind blew their blankets.

What damage could be seen on the coastline Tuesday was, in some locations, staggering. “Unthinkable,” New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said of what unfolded along the Jersey Shore, where houses were swept from their foundations and amusement park rides were washed into the ocean.

“It is beyond anything I thought I’d ever see. It is a devastating sight right now.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Is climate change to blame?

For more than a dozen years, climate scientists have been warning about the risk for big storms and serious flooding in New York.

- But they say it’s unfair to blame climate change for Sandy and its destruction.
- “The ingredients of this storm seem a little bit cooked by climate change, but the overall storm is difficult to attribute to global warming,” Canada’s University of Victoria climate scientist Andrew Weaver said.

Worst is over in Ontario. Toronto bears brunt of damage here in Canada

Superstorm Sandy has left tens of thousands of people without power in Ontario and Quebec, though experts say the worst appears to be over.

Environment Canada says the massive weather system dwindled overnight and should continue to weaken, but notes the provinces are still in for some wet, windy weather.

In Ontario, Toronto was hardest hit as 60,000 customers were without electricity Tuesday morning leading to the closure of more than a dozen schools for the day.

A felled tree crushed a house in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

So not PC. Loblaw label accused of ‘tasteless’ storm-related tweet

President’s Choice has apologized for an “insensitive” tweet about Hurricane Sandy that has left many Canadians with a bad taste.

The private label of Loblaw posted Tuesday: “What’s scarier? Hurricane #Sandy or a beverage with marshmallow eyeballs?” It linked to a recipe for “marshmallow bloodshot eyeballs,” which suggests cutting marshmallows in half and putting a grape or blueberry in the middle.

The account was flooded with replies criticizing the tweet as “awful” and “tasteless” for making light of a storm that killed more than 100 people across North America and the Caribbean, including a woman in Toronto.

President’s Choice tweeted again about an hour later to say it was sorry.

“We sincerely apologize for the insensitive tweet,” the company wrote. “We understand the seriousness of the storm and didn’t intend to make light of it.” THE CANADIAN PRESS

The morning after

1 N.Y.C. bright lights. Snuffed out

A darkened Manhattan is viewed Tuesday after much of the city lost electricity. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

2 Definitely post-tropical. In W.Va

Joe Bays shovels snow in front of his home in Beckley, W.Va. The storm dumped up to 48 centimetres of snow in West Virginia. JON C. HANCOCK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 Six feet under. Not deep enough

A casket floated out of the grave in a cemetery in Crisfield, Md. ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 City’s driving force. Flooded

Cars float in a flooded subterranean basement in the financial district of New York City. ANDREW BURTON/GETTY IMAGES

5 Community sees. Incredible loss

Robert Connolly, left, embraces his wife Laura as they survey the remains of the home owned by her parents that burned to the ground in the Breezy Point section of New York. More than 50 homes were destroyed in the fire that swept through the oceanfront community during the storm. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Energy

TransCanada plants survive Sandy's wrath

TransCanada says its power generating operations in the northeastern U.S. made it through Superstorm Sandy in good shape. The firm's president of energy and oil pipelines says the Ravenswood Power Plant in New York City churned out electricity throughout Monday night and Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa

Federal spending cuts shutter culture organization

A cultural group founded by artists including Group of Seven member Lawren Harris is suspending operations after 67 years, a victim of federal spending cuts. The Canadian Conference of the Arts, the largest national alliance of the arts, culture and heritage sector, says it will start winding down its work. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maps app

Apple asked iPhone software exec to resign

The head of Apple's iPhone software development was asked to resign after he refused to sign a letter apologizing for the flaws in Apple's mapping application, according to a published report.

The Wall Street Journal says Scott Forstall's refusal was the latest clash between him and other executives, and it led to the company's announcement Monday that he is stepping down and leaving the company next year. Forstall's unit was responsible for the Maps application, which was unfavourably compared to the Google Maps app it replaced. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scott Forstall, senior VP of IPhone software AP FILE

Canada-China deal

Petition calls for feds to reject investment treaty

Opposition parties and activists are ramping up their campaign against the Canada-China investment deal in the hopes of stalling the agreement. Activist groups are handing MPs a petition with more than 60,000 signatures calling on the federal government to reject the investment treaty. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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TSX 12,377.05 (+64.30)

OIL $85.68 US (+$0.14)

GOLD $1,712.10 US (+$3.40)

Natural gas: $3.70 (-10 ¢)
Dow Jones: Closed due to storm

Not the blogs! Flooding takes out HuffPo

Data centres down. Hurricane Sandy shuts Internet facilities in downtown Manhattan, affecting popular sites

Flooded data centres in downtown Manhattan brought down Gawker, Huffington Post and many popular New York-based blogs Tuesday while phone and cable companies were scrambling to assess damage and restore service in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

News and gossip site Gawker.com was still down in the afternoon, but Huffington Post was back online. Their web host, Datagram Inc. said power was out, and flooding in their basement was preventing their backup generators from pumping fuel. Internet connectivity from three providers was also down.

Verizon Communications Inc., the biggest phone company in the region, said some facilities in downtown Manhattan are flooded, shutting down phone and Internet service.

Renesys Corp., which monitors the pathways of the Internet, said the storm caused major outages in New Jersey and New York. The city is a major transit point for international telecommunications traffic, and the firm said carriers were scrambling to route traffic around it.

Cablevision Systems Corp., which serves parts of Long Island, New York City and New Jersey, says it experienced widespread outages due to the loss of power. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stock exchange closed for second day

The streets surrounding the New York Stock Exchange were deserted Tuesday as financial markets remained closed for the second day due to Hurricane Sandy. Trading has rarely stopped for weather. A blizzard led to a late start and an early close on Jan. 8, 1996, according to the exchange's parent company, NYSE Euronext. The NYSE also shut down on Sept. 27, 1985, for Hurricane Gloria. The exchange is expected to reopen Wednesday for regular trading. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France.

160% beer tax increase proves hard to swallow

France, the land of wine, is planning heavy taxes on beer, and that is not going down well with brewers — even in other nations.

President Francois Hollande is pushing through legislation to increase taxes on beer by 160 per cent to help fund struggling social programs as France tries to contain a budget deficit hit hard by the economic crisis.

The tax would affect local brews and the 30 per cent of imported beer the French drink.

The change means the price of a beer will increase by about 20 per cent in bars and supermarkets, said Jacqueline Lariven, spokeswoman for the French brewer's federation Brasseurs de France.

The Brewers of Europe trade group called the measure a "kick in the teeth" on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Units: #0683F B. Atkinson, # 0736G R. Barker, #1157A W. Lee

Storage-Mart #3001 328 Commissioners Rd. W. London, ON
Friday, November 23, 2012 @ 10:45am
Units: #0113A P. Gray, #0309C C. White, #0310C B. Houston, #0515E T. Antone, #0841H A. Robertson

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Units: # 2262 T. Antone

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Friday, November 23, 2012 @ 1:00pm
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WHAT'S GIVING YOU GOOSEBUMPS THIS HALLOWEEN

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Happy Halloween, the scariest day of the year. And if you think it's all fake blood, makeup and masks, this list of the Seven Scariest Things Happening Right Now will wipe that silly zombie grin off your face.

1 **Mother nature gone wild.** Earthquakes and tsunamis on the West Coast; Perfect Storm Sandy on the East Coast. Why has Gaia gone gaga? Is it something we did?

2 **Death by Mitt-adventure.** Mitt Romney must figure he's suffering from some Halloween curse. At the very moment it looks as if his U.S. presidential campaign is poised to take off, he is foiled by an Act of God that elevates Barack Obama, his opponent. It doesn't help that he was caught on camera during the Republican primary, saying it was "immoral" to borrow money for disaster relief. It's bad enough that the New York Times has endorsed Obama, but God? Geez, Louise.

3 **...and 39 minutes later.** Not sure if it was immoral or not, but the U.S. response to the 7.7-magnitude earthquake off Haida Gwaii Saturday night was 39 minutes faster than the B.C. government's. The quake happened at 8:04 p.m.; the U.S. sent out a tsunami warning at 8:16. The B.C. government followed with a tsunami tweet at 8:55, long after everyone should have gone to higher ground. B.C. Premier Christy Clark was happy with her province's response. Nobody died, she said cheerfully. This time.

4 **Equal time for the undead.** Tony Bennett makes another album of duets with people who can still sing, play instruments and stand upright. For a man who recorded his first album in 1952, a hearty pat on the back … and two words of advice: Enough, already.

5 **Speaking of creepy.** Then there's Anne Coulter. If Tony Bennett should step aside for Michael Bublé or something, Anne Coulter should be subject to a restraining order. The scariest blond on the block calls the president of the United States a "retard" in her outside voice, and refuses to take it back or apologize, no matter how many Special Olympians she has offended.

6 **Lost in cyberspace.** The head of Apple's iPhone software development loses his head over the iPhone 5 Maps application that directs people into the Twilight Zone more often than Google Maps, which it unwisely replaces. Almost simultaneously (or at least posthumously) the 260-foot yacht of deceased Apple founder Steve Jobs is launched. I hope it's using Google Maps to navigate.

7 **Most Haunted — NOT!** The annual list of most haunted places in Canada is doing the rounds again this year, and the usual suspects — the Banff Springs Hotel, Fort Henry in Kingston, Ont., and Gastown's Blood Alley — are on the list. But Canada's Scariest Place didn't even make the list: Where's Toronto City Hall? Rob Ford is comin' to git ya.

Hopefully Mitt Romney isn't compromising his moral beliefs here, where he helps at a storm relief event in Kettering, Ohio, on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

Endangered moth larva a scary sight

LUI WEBER/REX FEATURES

Animal behaviour

Larva of moth is fit for Halloween

If prizes for Halloween costumes were handed out in the natural world, this scary skull-faced creepy-crawly would surely win.

This extraordinary specimen is the larva of the pink underwing moth (Phyllodes imperialis), an endangered species only found in the Australian rainforest. METRO

Photographer's viewpoint

"Sadly this moth is very rare. I only know of a single adult seen last year, so I do not have photographs of the adult yet. This southern subspecies is listed as nationally endangered in Australia."

Botanist/ecologist and photographer Lui Weber explains

Habitat

Photographer keeps finding more

All but one of the habitat locations are in south-eastern Queensland, but Lui says more discoveries are being made.

"It was only known to breed in a single location in upland rainforest. But this year I have discovered another three locations and a colleague has located one additional site, making five locations in total," Lui says. METRO

Conservation efforts

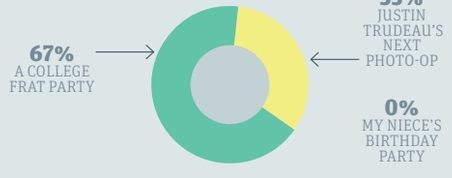
Moth currently looking for a home

The Australian government has placed the caterpillar on its endangered list. "Potential breeding habitat is restricted to areas where the caterpillar's food plant, a native rainforest vine, occurs in subtropical rainforest," the government said. "Adult pink underwing moths require the darkness supplied by the vine to breed." METRO

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

After appearing in an Ottawa couple's wedding photos, what event should Stephen Harper photobomb next?



Twitter

@JaimiChambers: Hey #ldnont! I'm looking for PT work in an admin capacity - anyone have any leads? I have a kick ass resume and references ;)

@prideldnfest: AGM next week Nov 6th at 7-9 at the Central Library! Members are invited to renew, get updates and more. #ldnont

@379_Deanne: Impressed that my rickity old apartment held up well during the wind and rain last night. No leaks!

@thesocialdragon: Just checked out @ByronStarbucks for the first time. Wonderful. It's like no other Starbucks in #ldnont. So inviting.

@CanadianCheri: Most original costume? Be yourself.

@Mikey1080: Got a nice free lunch bag at the mustang lounge #WesternU

metro

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Walt Disney Company President and CEO Bob Iger, left, Star Wars creator George Lucas and actor Anthony Daniels attend the grand opening ceremonies for Star Tours — The Adventures Continue at Disney's Hollywood Studios theme park. DAVID ROARK/GETTY IMAGES

LucasFilm flies into new era

Walt Disney. The Star Wars franchise, built from the ground up by George Lucas, sold for death-star-size sum of $4.05 billion

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

The Walt Disney Company has purchased LucasFilm — which was behind the colossal Star Wars franchise — for $4.05 billion, the company announced Tuesday.

In addition, Disney announced that a new Star Wars film — rumoured to be Episode 7, which would follow Return of the Jedi chronologically — will be released in 2015.

That film will be just the beginning, as a Disney insider tells Metro that the new film "will be followed by Episodes 8 and 9, and our long term plan is to release a new Star Wars feature film every two to three years."

He added that the company believes "there's substantial pent-up demand" for more Star Wars films.

"For the past 35 years, one of my greatest pleasures has been to see Star Wars passed from one generation to the next," franchise creator George Lucas said in a statement. "It's now time for me to pass Star Wars on to a new generation of filmmakers."

LucasFilm co-chair Kathleen Kennedy will become president of LucasFilm, while Lucas will serve as a creative consultant for any new films. Disney purchased Marvel Entertainment three years ago for an almost identical sum.

Celeb tweets

Here is what some of the celebrity fans are saying about the switch.

- **Patton Oswalt (@pattonoswalt).** Not saying Twitter's in a nerd frenzy about the Disney/Lucasfilm STAR WARS VII news, but I tried to post earlier & got my arm ripped off.
- **Paul Scheer (@paulscheer).** I just got so excited when I heard they were making a Star Wars VII then I remembered the last three.
- **Harry Knowles (@headgeek666).** Busy running a mini-army to get ready for Halloween. But, this STAR WARS/LUCASFILM/DISNEY thing — it's what I as a fan have dreamt of. YES!
- **Han Solo (@hansolo).** I'm mostly just excited for Star Wars theme parks.

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Simpson busted after wife finds photo of young male model

Joe Simpson's alleged affair with a 21-year-old male model apparently only came to light when his wife, Tina Simpson, discovered some photos of the young man, Bryce Chandler Hill, in her home and confronted her husband, according to Radar Online.

"Joe got busted after Tina found some modeling pictures of Bryce in her home," a source says. "They were taken in and around the house, and she was suspicious because she didn't have a clue who the boy was."

After finding photos of Joe and Bryce together, Tina decided to confront Joe, who was on a trip to New York at the time — so that's just where she went, according to the website.

"When she got there, she called him down to the lobby and they thrashed it out," the source says.

"It was there and then that Joe confessed he was having a gay affair with Bryce, who had left the hotel just days earlier, and Tina demanded a divorce."

Joe Simpson

Twitter

@Joan_Rivers
Thinking of everyone in NY and on the east coast. Stay safe! I'm stuck in LA and unable to appear live on @QVC. This truly NEVER happens...

@AlbertBrooks
The news seems so happy when the storm is worse and sad when it isn't.

@lindsaylohan
Do it

@SteveMartinToGo
I hearby resign from public life. Okay, I'm back!

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lance Bass not bothered over Timberlake wedding snub

Lance Bass doesn't harbor any hard feelings toward Justin Timberlake for not getting invited to Timberlake's recent lavish wedding in Italy.

"No one was invited to Justin's wedding. None of *NSYNC were invited," Bass tells Hollyscoop. "They had a small group of people. We did an engagement party for him, but nothing since then."

Bass must not have read the reports from Us Weekly last week that *NSYNC members JC Chasez and Chris Kirkpatrick did in fact score invites.

But Bass and Timberlake seem to agree on one thing: "I highly doubt that we will ever have a reunion," Bass says.

"I mean, never say never. But it won't be any time soon."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Charlize Theron

Theron, Hardy butting heads on set

Tensions are reportedly running high on the set of the Mad Max remake — and it's all due to Tom Hardy's method acting, which is driving co-star Charlize Theron crazy, according to Radar Online.

"Charlize and Tom are just not getting on together," a source says.

"In between takes Tom likes to stay in character and is constantly talking to himself and mumbling things. Charlize has tried to talk to him during breaks in filming, but he shuts himself off from the rest of the cast." The source adds that Theron thinks Harding is "a weirdo."

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Half Moon Golf Club is located just beyond the craggy coastline of Montego Bay. HANDOUT

The sun is shining — the golf course is sweet

Tee time. The Jamaican Open offers a laid-back chance for amateurs to hit the links with the pros

BRIAN KENDALL
canadiangolftraveller.com

A favourite stop of royalty and high society, Montego Bay's posh Half Moon, A Rock Resort, hosts both amateurs and pros in a prestigious and fun annual championship dating from 1953.

Teeing off under the swaying palms alongside Jim Thorpe, Olin Browne, Russ Cochrane and other golf stars in the Jamaica Open is a fantasy come true for amateur golfers.

Just as much fun is the beachside après-golf parties with new celebrity friends at the resort, which is the host and sponsor of the national championship.

Played Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, the tourney is open to both professionals and amateurs who carry a maximum handicap of 5.0.

Far more democratic is the one-day pro-am preceding the main event, which accepts entries from teams of three golfers of varying abilities (provided each golfer carries an official handicap) for the entry fee of $600 (all prices in U.S. dollars).

The resort is posh inside and out. HANDOUT

Perhaps as big a draw as the Jamaica Open's purse of $85,000 is the opportunity for golfers to luxuriate for a few days at a Caribbean resort whose guest list has included the Queen and John and Jacqueline Kennedy, who enjoyed a month-long vacation here just prior to his inauguration as U.S. president in 1961.

Half Moon takes its name from the property's famous crescent-shaped beach of pure white sand, which in 1954 inspired investors to turn an abandoned sugar plantation into one of the world's elite resorts.

Located near bustling Montego Bay on Jamaica's northwest coast, Half Moon, which has been lavishly renovated over the past decade, sprawls across 400 acres of some of the most dramatically beautiful terrain in the Caribbean.

Accommodations include rooms and suites, as well as 33 elegantly accessorized four-to-seven-bedroom private villas, each with a pool and full-time staff.

Furnished throughout with Queen-Anne-inspired pieces and vibrant Jamaican paintings, Half Moon retains the feel of a traditional island plantation, yet with all the modern amenities.

There are 54 swimming pools, 13 floodlit tennis courts, the award-winning Fern Tree spa, one of the Caribbean's best-equipped equestrian centres and a protected lagoon where guests can swim with Reggae and Toni, the resident Atlantic Bluenose dolphins.

One of the 54 swimming pools at Half Moon, A Rock Resort. HANDOUT

Exclusively online

Where to find Brian online

- **Online.** Follow Brian Kendall on twitter @cdngolftraveler and visit his website, canadiangolftraveller.com

But the focus for golfers is Half Moon Golf Club, a lushly tropical Robert Trent Jones Sr. design opened in 1961 (and masterfully updated by Roger Rulewich in 2005) that flows seamlessly through gentle foothills just beyond the craggy coastline.

Half Moon is also ideally situated for golfers who want to linger a while and play other courses.

A quick shuttle ride away is Cinnamon Hill Golf Course, a Robert von Hagge-Rick Baril design that weaves through the 19th-century ruins of Rose Hall plantation.

And just beyond that is White Witch Golf Club, an evilly difficult Hagge-Baril design offering views of the Caribbean Sea from no fewer than 16 holes.

Entry to the Lime Jamaica Open is $650 for professionals; $500 for amateurs.

Special Jamaica Open room rates at Half Moon start at $215 per night single occupancy and $240 per night double.

2012 marks the fifth consecutive year that Half Moon has hosted Jamaica's premier golf tournament, and the eighth time in the resort's 58-year history.

Gruesomely delicious dip with black bugs is made for tombstone nibbling

Roasted eggplant and pepper dip with black "bugs" is a gruesomely delicious dip that can be topped off with "tombstone" toast slices. This baba-ganoush-inspired recipe reaches new levels of darkness with rich pomegranate molasses, balanced by heady garlic, cumin, coriander and bell pepper.

Garnished by insect-specks of black sesame or poppy seeds, it will have your guests crawling with excitement inspired from beyond the chip bowl.

Ingredients

- 1 large eggplant (1-1/2 lbs/750 g), pricked all over with a fork
- 1 sweet orange pepper
- 1 onion, quartered
- 4 large cloves garlic
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- 1-1/2 tsp each (7 ml) cumin seeds, coriander seeds
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) nigella, black sesame or poppy seeds, divided
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) salt
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 cup (250 ml) thick plain yogurt (Greek)
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) pomegranate molasses
- Flatbread, toasted pita or sliced naan to serve

1. Preheat oven to 400 F (200 C).

2. Place eggplant directly on oven rack. Place whole pepper, onion and garlic cloves in a small roasting pan and toss olive oil. Roast vegetables for 45 minutes, tossing every 15 minutes, until vegetables are charred and eggplant is deflated (remove garlic and onions as they are roasted; they will be ready before pepper). Remove eggplant from oven with tongs, place in roasting pan with other vegetables, and allow to cool.

3. While vegetables are cooling, in a small, dry skillet, combine cumin, coriander and 1 tsp (5 ml) of nigella seeds. Cook over medium heat, shaking pan often for 2 minutes until fragrant and seeds begin to pop. Transfer to mortar and pestle (alternatively use spice grinder or place in a bowl and crush with the back of spoon) and grind until seeds are crushed, but not perfectly smooth.

4. When vegetables are cool enough to handle, cut eggplant and scoop out flesh onto a cutting board. Peel, core and de-seed pepper and place flesh on board with onion and garlic cloves. Roughly chop everything together and scoop into a serving bowl. Stir in toasted seeds, salt, lemon juice, yogurt and pomegranate molasses. Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate for up to 2 days. Top with remaining nigella seeds arranging as bugs.

DAIRYGOODNESS.CA

Roasted Eggplant and Pepper Dip with Black 'Bugs'

This recipe yields about 3-1/2 cups (875 ml) of dip. DAIRYGOODNESS.CA

Drink of the Week

Dark and Gloomy Blueberry Smoothie

This gloomy-coloured smoothie, perfect for a spooky Halloween breakfast, is packed with blueberries, bananas, milk and a handful of spinach. Halloween, after all, is all about disguises!

- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) milk
- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) loosely packed fresh baby spinach
- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen blueberries
- 1 banana, peeled
- Pinch ground nutmeg
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) pure maple syrup, or to taste

In a blender, combine milk, spinach, blueberries, banana, nutmeg and maple syrup and blend until smooth. Add more maple syrup, if desired. Serve immediately.

DAIRYGOODNESS.CA

Snack on sweet pots of mud and savoury bones

Pots of Mud

1. In bowl, stir together peanut butter, hot fudge sauce, half-and-half (more or less depending on desired consistency), and graham cracker crumbs. Spoon into small cups, such as shot glasses, and serve with pretzels and cookie sticks for dipping.

Bay Bones

1. Heat the oven to 400 F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper or spritz lightly with cooking spray.

2. In bowl, combine the Parmesan with Italian seasoning.

3. On floured surface, unfold 1 sheet of the puff pastry. Very lightly moisten surface of pastry with water. Sprinkle half Parmesan mix over it. Using sharp knife, cut the dough into 1/2-inch strips. One at a time, grab each strip by its ends and twist once or twice to create a spiral. Arrange the strips on the prepared baking sheet, leaving about a 1/2 inch between them. Repeat the process with the second sheet of pastry and remaining Parmesan mixture.

4. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes, or until golden brown and crisp. Allow to cool slightly before serving. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This recipe makes 12 pots of mud. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

Pots of Mud
- 1 cup chunky peanut butter
- 1/2 cup hot fudge sauce
- 4 to 6 tbsp half-and-half
- 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- Cookie sticks or pretzels

Bay Bones
- 1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tbsp Italian seasoning
- 17.3-oz package frozen puff pastry, thawed

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Is your desk reflecting your best?

Look around you. A chaotic cubicle could indicate to co-workers that professionalism isn't your priority

LEAH RUEHLICKE
TalentEgg.ca

Whether we like it or not, our desks say a lot about us.

If you're entering the workforce for the first time as a student or new grad, it's easy to overlook the small details of your working life and focus solely on fitting in with your new office.

Ultimately, your personality, work ethic and professional skills will be what allow you to succeed in your career, but there is a lot to be said for how you handle your personal space. Unnecessary clutter, for example, can cause you to appear disheveled and make your co-workers take you less seriously.

Avoiding these common trends can ensure that if your desk absolutely insists on talking about you, it will only have good things to say.

Itching to leave

It's nice to personalize your space. In fact, doing so creates the idea that you are committed for the long haul, which an employer will look highly upon. That being said, the 800 photos of your Jamaican cruise and countdown calendar to your next vacation don't reflect well. They suggest that you'd rather be anywhere but here.

Tip: Limit the number of photos you post so you don't appear eager to run out the door.

No man's land

On the other end of the spectrum, your desk shouldn't be so empty that people forget someone actually sits there. Too many photos and memorabilia items send a negative message, but a complete lack of them sends a different yet equally off-putting thought. People might think you're reluctant to settle down with the company.

Tip: Nobody needs to know about your ongoing Pokemon obsession, but a family photo or two makes it seem like a human being actually works there.

Childhood nostalgia

If you're going to let your space speak for you, make sure it's dishing out the compliments. ISTOCK

Small toys often occupy some desk spaces. Slinkies. Bobbleheads. Tiny race cars. These add a sense of fun to your desk and express your imagination and laid-back attitude. That being said, an overabundance of toys can also suggest a lack of focus.

Tip: Your desk should indicate that you're approachable, not five years old. Keep the slinky and throw out the Etch-a-Sketch.

Snacks and Starbucks

Depending on your work environment, eating at your desk may be common practice. However, if you're one of those people who likes to eat little portions throughout the day, make sure you don't let empty containers and wrappers pile up. This makes you appear messy and distracted (and as though you have nothing better to do than continually go for coffee breaks).

Tip: Use a reusable coffee mug to cut down on the number of Starbucks cups piling up by your monitor.

Post-it note central

If a slight breeze could potentially tear your organization apart, it's time to change your strategy. Writing a quick note to yourself might make you feel on top of things, but an abundance of them makes you appear disorganized to others.

Tip: A notebook (or better yet, an online calendar which can notify you before you're supposed to do something) is a much more efficient way to stay organized.

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Taking festive too far?

Every day is a holiday

- Halloween brings forth tiny carved pumpkins. Christmas finds your desk completely strung with lights, and Easter features a giant pile of decorated eggs. Although festive, this indicates you have nothing better to do at work, making your boss question both your priorities and commitment to your job.
- Tip: Bring in Halloween treats and hang up a stocking. End of story.

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MLB

Leyland to return to Tigers on one-year deal

Jim Leyland insisted throughout the latter part of the season that there would be a time and a place to discuss his managing future.

That moment came Tuesday — when the Detroit Tigers announced Leyland would be back in 2013 with a one-year contract extension.

"I really don't know why this is such a shock to everybody, because we told everybody that we weren't going to talk about this until after the season," Leyland said. "It's not even 48 hours and it's done. I think it was pretty much exactly like we had planned it."

The Tigers and their manager quickly ended any remaining speculation about his status, just two days after Detroit was swept by the San Francisco Giants in the World Series. Leyland was managing on a one-year deal this year as well.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

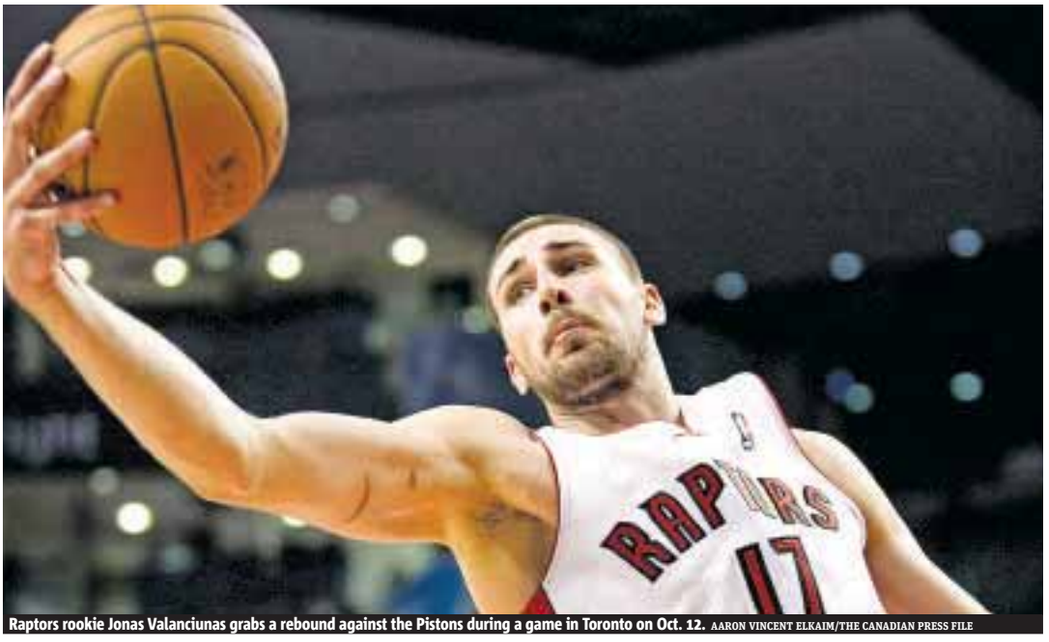
MLB

Romero's rough season ends with elbow surgery

As Ricky Romero struggled through his disastrous 2012 season, it was often speculated he must have been hurt. Now we know he was.

The Blue Jays' 27-year-old left-hander had arthroscopic surgery two weeks ago to "clean up" scar tissue that had built up in his left elbow, he and the club announced Tuesday.

Romero admitted he pitched through soreness on the outside of his elbow through most of the season, but said he wasn't sure if it caused his poor performance. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Raptors rookie Jonas Valanciunas grabs a rebound against the Pistons during a game in Toronto on Oct. 12. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Raps' Valanciunas not sweating NBA debut

NBA. Big Lithuanian rookie 'not feeling big pressure' ahead of clash with Pacers

Jonas Valanciunas couldn't have envisioned such an NBA debut when he was drafted nearly a year and a half ago.

Not only will he start in the Raptors' season opener Wednesday, matching up against an NBA all-star, the Lithuanian centre is being touted as the future of the franchise for a team aching to get back to the playoffs for the first time in five years.

That's a lot sitting on the shoulders of a 20-year-old — but Valanciunas sounds up to the task.

"I'm not feeling big pressure," he said in his thick Lithuanian accent. "I feel small pressure because we need to win, because everybody is expecting us to win now because no hockey, everybody is going to be concentrating on basketball.

"But it's just basketball. You have to step on the court and do your things. If you're going to think about pressure, or what the guys (are) talking about you, it's not going to be good."

Valanciunas will battle 2012 all-star Roy Hibbert when the Raptors host the Indiana Pacers in their season opener on Wednesday. The Toronto rookie will make his long-awaited debut after the Raptors selected him fifth overall in the 2011 draft but left him in Lithuania for another season of development.

Raptors coach Dwane Casey admitted he's nervous for his young player.

"I want Jonas to do well, I want him to perform well, and he's going against an experienced guy who knows all the tricks," Casey said after Tuesday's practice at the Air Canada Centre. "It's experience against inexperience, but this is the only way this young man is going to learn. Throw him out there in the fire, let him make his mistakes, and learn from them."

Valanciunas is one of three new starters for Toronto — the others are Kyle Lowry and Landry Fields. Valanciunas earned his spot with strong play in the pre-season, making five starts and averaging 8.3 points and 6.8 rebounds.

"I was not expecting to be the coach's starting centre, I expected just 10 minutes, and he's giving me a lot, so I feel really great," Valanciunas said. "I feel support from the coach, from the players, it's amazing.

"I think this is the best spot for me to play basketball."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"The fans of Toronto will love him just because he hits first and asks questions later. Maybe too much so."

Raptors head coach Dwane Casey on Jonas Valanciunas

4 SPORTS

BHi FALL STANDINGS SEASON BHi

EASTERN CONFERENCE

TEAMS	GP	W	L	T	SOL	GF	GA	PTS
LONDON LEAFERS	10	9	1	0	0	44	23	18
SHOCKERS	12	8	4	0	0	42	32	16
MISFITS	12	7	5	0	0	38	28	14
BALL WACKERS	11	4	6	0	1	16	39	9
WOLFPACK	11	2	7	0	2	12	31	6
OUT OF GAS	11	1	10	0	0	26	51	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

TEAMS	GP	W	L	T	SOL	GF	GA	PTS
REBELS	11	10	1	0	0	52	14	20
THROWBACKS	10	7	1	0	2	43	18	16
OTHER TEAM	10	6	4	0	0	45	21	12
HOCKEY BALBOAS	12	5	6	0	1	24	46	11
HEADLESS HORSEMEN	12	4	8	0	0	33	44	8
ACE HOLES	10	3	6	0	1	28	56	7

CO-ED DIVISION

TEAMS	GP	W	L	T	SOL	GF	GA	PTS
LADIES of the NIGHT	6	4	1	0	1	15	11	9
THUMBS UP	6	4	1	0	1	20	13	9
FMC	6	3	2	0	0	19	10	7
HAPPY HOOKERS	6	3	2	0	1	14	16	7
SHELLY LAMBERT	6	3	2	0	1	15	21	7
NEW TEAM	6	1	4	0	1	9	21	3

YOUTH 3 STARS

1 MCKENZEE MACQUEEN, RAIDERS — 4 goals, 2 assist

2 EMMA WATKINS, VIPERS — 2 goals, 3 assist

3 ADAM AMARAL, VIPERS — 2 goals, 1 assist

ADULT 3 STARS

1 JOHN MILLMAN, THROWBACKS — 4 goals, 2 assists

2 JUSTIN ROBERTSON, ACEHOLES — 3 goals, 1 assist (Hat Trick)

3 BRAD RIEHL, THROWBACKS — Great goaltending

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Canadian Sacre living NBA dream with Lakers

Opening night. North Vancouver native goes from last pick in draft to backing up superstar centre Howard in L.A.

Lakers centre Robert Sacre, left, battles for the ball with Clippers forward Blake Griffin during a pre-season game in Los Angeles on Oct. 24. HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES FILE

It was a Saturday night last November and University of Hawaii Rainbows coach Gib Arnold was convinced he was right.

"He's a first-round pick," Arnold said of Canadian centre Robert Sacre.

He had just watched Sacre score 16 points and add 10 rebounds while leading the Gonzaga Bulldogs to a win over Hawaii in a non-conference game in Vancouver. As it turned out, Arnold was wrong.

Sacre, a 23-year-old seven-footer from North Vancouver, B.C., was not selected in the first round last June. In fact, he was the last pick (60th overall) in the two-round NBA draft.

But almost a year later, as he prepared to launch his career with the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night, Sacre had no complaints.

"It was a long day, especially with the 60th pick," he recalled. "But I'm just fortunate to be here and to have this opportunity."

The Lakers chose Sacre with a second-round pick they had acquired in a trade with the New Jersey Nets in 2010.

Many scouts and other prognosticators didn't think he'd be drafted at all. Sacre's selection also proved them wrong.

Now, he finds himself backing up superstar centre Dwight Howard on a star-laden franchise that is seeking its 17th NBA title.

"It's a great honour," Sacre said of playing for the Lakers. "Not a lot of people saw this coming. I'm fortunate enough that it did come true, and I'm just living the dream."

However, Sacre's job security is limited and he'll have to work hard to keep his spot on a deep roster. Sacre only signed a one-year contract, which does not become guaranteed unless the Lakers keep him until January.

In other words, he can be released at any time and the club will not suffer any financial repercussions. But Sacre, a former college and high school standout who won a B.C. title with the Handsworth Royals in 2006, said the situation is nothing new to him.

"I went through this my freshman and sophomore years at Gonzaga, when I wasn't the guy," he said. "I didn't take it personally. I know what I need to do. I just want to win."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

National team implications

Robert Sacre has expressed a desire to play for Canada's national team and Lakers point guard Steve Nash is now that squad's general manager. While passing the ball to Sacre, Nash can scout him literally first-hand.

- "We talked about (the possibility of playing for the national team) this summer," said Sacre. "But really, that's not our focus. It's Lakers right now. That's what I'm thinking about, and I think that's what he's focusing on right now as well."

Hockey. Simmonds the target of racism once again in Czech league

The Czech Republic's ice hockey federation says it has fined a club after its fans aimed racist chants toward Philadelphia Flyers winger Wayne Simmonds, who is playing in the top Czech league during the NHL lockout.

In a statement issued Tuesday, the federation said the Chomutov Pirates were fined 30,000 koruna ($1,554) by its disciplinary committee for the chants directed toward Simmonds, who currently plays for the Liberec White Tigers.

The incident took place during Sunday's game between the Pirates and the Tigers.

Chomutov has apologized to Simmonds and the club said it would do everything it can to prevent any such abuse in the future.

Last year, a banana was thrown at Simmonds from the stands during an NHL pre-season game in London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wayne Simmonds with the Philadelphia Flyers at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 26. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Allegations of racism

English soccer investigating ref

A new criminal investigation into racism in English soccer began on Tuesday when police opened a case into claims a referee directed "inappropriate language" at two Chelsea players during a match.

Referee Mark Clattenburg is accused of abusing midfielders John Obi Mikel and Juan Mata during Sunday's 3-2 loss to Manchester United in the Premier League, according to the lawyer whose complaint sparked the police investigation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Obi Mikel, right, of Chelsea talks to referee Mark Clattenburg on Sunday in London, England. GETTY IMAGES FILE

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Part-time goalie working OT for locked-out players

Hockey. 45-year-old doing his part in keeping pros sharp

The first time real-estate agent and part-time goalie Greg Partchenko walked into a dressing room filled with NHLers, you could hear a puck drop.

"The first day, I walk in and I hear all the guys talking away and it goes silent," says Partchenko. "You can hear the guys thinking, 'Who's this guy?'

"I just said, 'Hi.'"

Big, burly and in his mid-40s, Partchenko put on his equipment, went out on the ice and started what amounts to a part-time hobby as a goalie for NHL stars.

"The next day, Matt Stajan came to me and said, 'When we first looked at you we said, who the heck is this guy? When you got out there it was like, this guy can stop pucks.'"

That was a couple of years ago when Partchenko, 45, got a call from a mutual friend of Matt Nichol, the former Leaf trainer who runs a camp for pros in the summer. Like shinny players everywhere, they needed a goalie.

"(On Friday), we didn't have a goalie. It's not as fun," says Leafs forward Matthew Lombardi. "You need a goalie. It makes it better for us."

Now that the lockout has sidelined NHLers everywhere, Partchenko's regular two-week gig in August has stretched out a couple of months. He's gotten to know the likes of Phil Kessel, Mike Cammalleri and Dion Phaneuf.

"You're thinking, 'Are these guys going to take it easy on me, are they going to go hard? If I feel like I'm having a bad day, do these guys want me to come back? Am I putting up enough competition for them?'" wonders Partchenko. "At the end of the day, they go, 'Yep, you're doing all right.'"

It's been mostly Maple Leafs and Toronto residents like Cammalleri and Tomas Kaberle working out at the local rink — they're not at the Maple Leafs-operated MasterCard Centre anymore.

There's a bit of a rotation among the goalies working out at the Toronto camp. Team Canada women's national goalie Christina Kessler has been coming out lately, as well as some midget-aged goalies.

Andrew Cipollone, 16, of the AAA North York Rangers, was on the ice on Monday — skipping school in the process — for his first day with the pros. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Quoted

"There's 60 in the league and so many are in Europe. There's just not that many around."

Toronto Maple Leaf Phil Kessel on the challenge of finding a goaltender for training sessions

Goalie Greg Partchenko with new Maple Leafs centre Jay McClement during a scrimmage with locked-out NHL players in Toronto on Tuesday.
ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Just who is locked out?

Nearly 200 NHLers now playing in Europe

The number of unemployed locked-out NHLers appears to be dwindling.

Maple Leafs winger Joffrey Lupul is among the latest in a wave of NHLers heading to Russia in the wake of stalled collective bargaining talks.

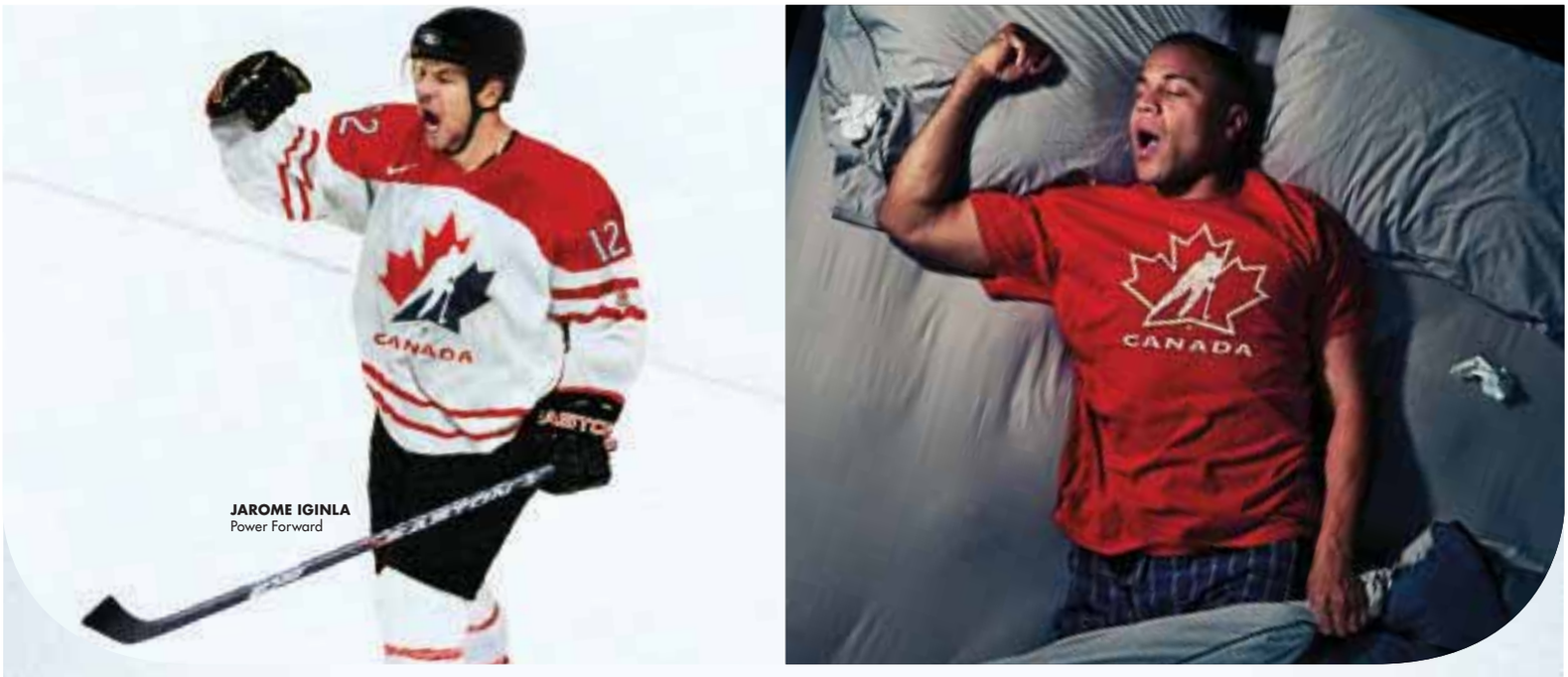
Patrick Kane scored his first goal in the Swiss league Tuesday as almost 20 NHLers have headed across the water since the NHL and NHL Players' Association last exchanged proposals.

Now, according to the NHLPA, 191 NHLers are playing in Russia and Europe — including five Maple Leafs — and with about as many assigned by their teams to AHL rosters, just who is locked out?

The NHLPA boasts about 720 members and the number of players working out in North American arenas trying to keep fit is dwindling.

The skate in Toronto, which had nine players last week, had only five on Tuesday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE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Toronto firm Baka Communications' huge grid of solar panels above their new-age filling station is one of the biggest in North America. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Sing it – I'm driving on sunshine!

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Being the centre of our part of the universe, the sun has always maintained a pretty big ego. But we must let that slide, because it's always been quite generous about sharing its energy.

Flora and fauna have long ago figured out how to directly use the sun's energy. Cars, not so much. Solar-powered cars are coming, but they're still science experiments.

There has always been the indirect way — grabbing solar-generated electricity to throw on the grid, and then letting electric cars draw power from that grid.

It's a strategy that is gaining more and more traction these days, due to clean energy issues and the subsequent and rising popularity of the modern electrical-driven automobile.

A big case in point is the structure that suddenly appeared last week on the premises of Baka Communications. The Toronto-firm is billing it as the largest solar charging station in Canada that is not run by a government or utility-company entity. It's also among the largest in North America.

"We also have the largest private fleet of Chevrolet Volts in Canada," says Baka's president, John Marion. At the station's ribbon-cutting ceremony on Oct. 23, eight of the Volts were simultaneously charged, showing off the eight available charging stations, positioned under the carport's massive 20-kilowatt solar-panel roof.

Marion initiated the project after installing some solar panels at his house. It got him thinking about what he could do in the same green vein at the office.

"Next year, we're scheduled to do our rooftop project, an 80-kilowatt system," adds Marion. "When you combine them, they'll be able to provide 50 per cent of our total electrical needs at this location, including the full charging of all nine cars for 20-kilowatt-per-year driving."

The electric fleet and the two big solar panels will set the company back about $1 million dollars. Marion obviously feels the investment is justified.

"At the end of the day, I want to promote green … When we're bidding for work, clients want to know how green you are. We do a lot of green things, like recycling and conservation. Those are the norms. But nobody can come close to what we're doing. At the same time, it's got to be in you. It's in me."

It's in Marion so much he wants to make Baka an "evangelist for the environmental movement." In this regard, Baka is blessed by its location adjacent to the much-travelled 427 Highway — about 275,000 vehicles a day will pass by the firm's electric carport.

"We hope a lot of people will see it, to ultimately create discussion and awareness that solar powered charging stations are actually here. We also hope that Saas' phone rings off the hook, because we should have more of these."

The Saas in question is Saas Perez of Renewz Sustainable Solutions, which built and created Baka's system. Perez says the station is the first in North America to be based on a combination of Italian structural technology and North American electrical technology.

The company will be introducing a home version in 2013. Also unique will be the ability to reserve a charging station via a mobile device, but only when Baka is ready to give public access to these charging stations.

How will Baka charge public users for charging? Marion said they wouldn't have to pay. Why no payment I can't help but ask…

"Because it's free," says Marion, pointing to the sky.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Someone is lying to you. Someone believes you are easy to fool. It's not true, is it? The planets indicate you need to keep your wits about you today. If you are careless, it could cost you more than just money.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Do you deal with a problem in a purely logical manner or do you allow your instincts to guide you? The best way is to combine the two, to find a happy medium. Use both sides of your brain today.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will hear something today you don't want to know about, but you can't escape the facts. Like it or not, changes have to be made. The only question is: Will you make them or will you leave it to others?

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You think too much. The more you dwell on a problem today, the more of a problem it will become. Divert your mind in a more positive direction and, who knows, maybe the problem will resolve itself.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Try something different today, something you would not usually dare to attempt. Yes, it may go wrong but, more likely, it will go right and you will impress a lot of people. You may even impress yourself.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will come under pressure from someone who thinks they have the right to tell you what to do. They don't, and the sooner you let them know that the sooner you will be rid of their annoying presence.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You like to take your time when making a decision but that luxury is not available to you at the moment. Listen to what your inner voice tells you and act on it immediately. That means today, not tomorrow!

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't waste your time and energy on things of no importance. If you allow yourself to be sidetracked, it could take quite a while before you are able to get back on course. Focus only on what is important to you.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Stand up for yourself. Refuse to do anything that does not feel right. Others will try to convince you that they know best but if your instincts tell you otherwise, you would be a fool not to listen.

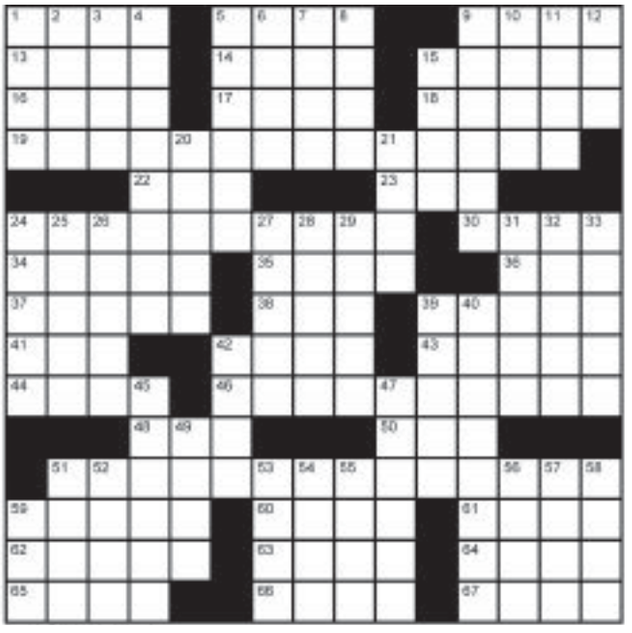
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Life is too short to waste time wondering if other people approve of your actions. For too long, you have hesitated because you were not sure you were doing the right thing. Ultimately, there is no right thing. Just act.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A friend or work colleague will try to drag you into a dispute that really has nothing to do with you and if you are smart, you will refuse to get involved. You are not your brother's keeper, nor anyone else's.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You know what you want and you know where to get it but certain people don't want you to have it. Can they stop you? Only if you let them — so don't let them. SALLY BROMPTON

Cities

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across

1. _: ___.: state west of Minnesota (2 wds.)
5. Chilled, as tea
9. Big smile
13. Trumpet or bugle
14. Connecting point
15. Angered
16. "Moi aussi" (2 wds. minus one O)
17. "Sad to say..."
18. Fortune teller's deck
19. BC city on north bank of the Fraser, in same metro area as 51-Across (2 wds.)
22. Copy
23. "Yessir"
24. Canada's largest province's capital (2 wds.)
30. MDs
34. Store event (2 wds)
35. Big fusses
36. Doubled, a dance
37. Heads: Fr.
38. Life story, for short
39. Internal-combustion engine
41. "Raggedy" doll
42. Wipe (up)
43. Go out with ___: end noticeably (2 wds.)
44. Aussie hoppers, familiarly
46. Largest southern Alberta city
48. Can. neighbor
50. Perform
51. Suburb of BC's largest city, directly across Burrard Inlet from that city, and part of its metro area (2 wds.)
59. "Tell ___ I Love Her": 1960 teenage tragedy hit
60. *Return of the Jedi* forest dweller
61. Je t'___: "I love you" (Fr.)
62. Aquatic mammal
63. *Scream* star Campbell
64. Mounties, briefly
65. Like a busybody
66. Pre-1917 Russian leader
67. "For" votes

Down

1. Ankle-to-knee bone
2. Be overly fond
3. "Pretty maids in ___" (2 wds.)
4. Can be understood
5. "Right away!" (3 wds.)
6. Equine youngster
7. Red-wrapped cheese
8. ___ Arnaz: Lucille Ball's husband
9. Prepared parmesan
10. Hard-to-find
11. "Do ___ else!": parent's threat (2 wds.)
12. Aerialist's "insurance"
15. Teeny
20. Fencing swords
21. Negative votes
24. Abu Dhabi neighbour whose capital is Doha
25. "We ___ MSG": restaurant claim (2 wds.)
26. "Jack Sprat could ___ fat ..." (2 wds.)
27. Broadcast alternative
28. Numskull
29. Canine or bicuspid
31. Eightsome
32. Cheech's partner
33. Beetle Bailey's nemesis
39. Explorer ___ Polo
40. Newspaper item recording a death
42. Yawn-inducing
45. BC's second-largest city, in the same metro area as 51-Across
47. Broadway "angel"
49. Our sun, say
51. Canada joined this mutual defense org. in 1949
52. Ins and ___
53. Air passageway
54. Stuns
55. ___ Scotia
56. "Miami ___" : Don Johnson show or movie based on it
57. Actress Watson of Harry Potter movies
58. Salesmen, for short
59. Horror film star Chaney

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

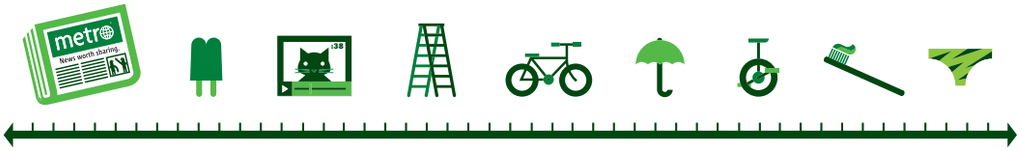
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

3					8		9	
			3	7			2	
	1		2					7
	6	4		5				
2			8		1			4
				6		9	5	
1					7		3	
	9			4	6			
	2		9					1

Yesterday's Sudoku

Sharability



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